

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COLOMB 02977 151700Z

41

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 AF-08 ARA-06

EA-07 EUR-12 INT-05 /123 W  
----- 002889

P R 151500Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5489

INFO NAC COLLECTIVE 38

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 2977

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: REVIEW OF NAC DEVELOPMENTS  
WITH TUNISIAN DELEGATE

1. EMBOFF HAD COMPREHENSIVE DISCUSSION OF CONFERENCE  
DEVELOPMENTS AND DYNAMICS WITH TUNISIAN DEL MAHMOUD  
MESTIRI (AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW AND AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE  
TO THE UN) MORNING AUGUST 14. MESTIRI MOST QUALIFIED TO  
DESCRIBE ARAB ISSUES AT NAC, BUT AS TUNISIAN REP ON  
POLITICAL COMMITTEE HIS ANALYSIS OF THER ASPECTS OF  
CONFERENCE ARE NOTEWORTHY.

2. ARAB ISSUES:

(A) ISRAEL: ARAB GROUP HAD HELD FOUR LONG MEETINGS  
TO RESOLVE DIVISIVE ISSUES. AT THEM, TUNISIA, EGYPT AND  
ZONE OR TWO OTHERS" HAD TAKEN STRONG STAND AGAINST  
EXPULSION. ALL MEMBERS OF GROUP HAD ACCEPTED DECISION TO  
GO FOR LIMA LANGUAGE, IN TUNISIAN VIEW "AT THE MOST."  
(COMMENT: DRAFT RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY ARAB GROUP  
BEING TRANSMITED SEPTEL.)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COLOMB 02977 151700Z

(B) SAHARA: REPORT WE HAD HEARD ELSEWHERE THAT

ARAB GROUP HAD DECIDED NOT TO AIR DISPUTE OVER WESTERN SAHARA AT NAC WAS TRUE IN A SENSE. HOWEVER, ALGERIA HAD NOT ACCEPTED GROUP DECISION. THUS THIS ISSUE REMAINS ONE OF ONLY TWO INTERNAL DISPUTES WHICH WILL DISTURB CONFERENCE (OTHER BEING TIMOR).

(C) LEBANON: ARAB GROUP DECISION TO COMPOSE INTERNAL DIFFERENCES FOR SAKE OF CONFERENCE HAS SUPPORT OF ALL MEMBERS. (AT SMALL MEETING OF US, UK, CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN NON-OBSERVERS THIS MORNING, BRITISH REPORTED THAT PLO HAD ASKED FOR AND OBTAINED SEAT ON ANCC IN EXCHANGE FOR KEEPING QUIET ON LEBANON.)

3. RADICAL DOMINATION: MESTIRI WAS APPALLED BY "ALIGNMENT" OF THE NON-ALIGNED. EVEN GOVERNMENTS KNOWN FOR THEIR MORE MODERATE VIEWS WERE HERE FOUND ESPOUSING "PROGRESSISTE" VIEWS OR , MORE FREQUENTLY, KEEPING SILENT. IVORY COAST, FOR EXAMPLE, HAD SENT UN PERM REP AS HEAD OF DELEGATION; AKE HAD TOLD MESTIRI HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO SPEAK ON ANY SUBJECT. RADICAL BENT OF CONFERENCE WAS ALSO RESULT OF BEHAVIOR OF POL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN KADUMA (TANZANIA), WHO HE QUOTED AS CUTTING OFF ONE DELEGATE WITH THE WORDS "THAT AREA IS FAR AWAY FROM YOU." KADUMA ALSO, MESTIRI OBSERVED, CHOSE CAREFULLY AMONG DELEGATES ASKING FOR THE FLOOR. THIS ANALYSIS PROVIDED BASIS FOR MESTIRI'S APPRAISAL OF OUTLOOK ON SPECIFIC ISSUES DESCRIBED PARA 6-8 BELOW.

4. LEADERSHIP: CONFERENCE WAS NOT LEADERLESS BUT RATHER WAS BEING DOMINATED BY A SMALL GROUP WHOSE "NON-ALIGNMENT" WAS ALIGNED IN ONE DIRECTION: ALGERIA, YUGOSLAVIA, INDIA (WHO HADN'T SPOKEN MUCH BUT APPEARED ACTIVE BEHIND THE SCENES), AND TANZANIA. THEIR HEAVY-HANDEDNESS HAD STIMULATED ATTACKS FROM THE FLOOR, INCLUDING A PASSING REFERENCE TO A CONFERENCE "MAFIA."

5. ALGERIA, SUBJUED SOME MONTHS BACK AFTER MOROCCAN SUCCESS IN SPANISH SAHARA, HAS FOUND NEW FORCE FOR AN ACTIVIST INTERNATIONAL STANCE FROM THE SUCCESS OF POLISARIO IN GUERRILLA ATTACKS. BOUTEFLIKA IS WOODED IN THE CORRIDORS.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03      COLOMB 02977 151700Z

HE ACHIEVED AN ASTOUNDING SUCCESS IN TALKING THE AFRICANS INTO GIVING TO THE LA GROUP TWO SEATS ON THE NACC ORIGINALLY ALLOCATED TO AFRICA. IN SO DOING, HE REDUCED THE NUMBER OF AFRICAN SEATS SUB-ALLOCATED TO NORTH AFRICA FROM TWO TO ONE, THEREBY FRUSTRATING EGYPT'S STRENUOUS EFFORT TO GET ON THE NACC (THE ONE NORTH AFRICAN SEATING GOING PERFORCE TO ALGERIA AS FORMER HEAD OF THE CONFERENCE).  
(COMMENT: OTHERS CONFIRM THAT AFRICANS GAVE UP TWO SEATS

TO LATINS.)

6. KOREA: PLAY OF FORCES WITHIN CONFERENCE DICTATES THAT LANGUAGE ON KOREA WILL BE "MODERATE WITHIN A NORTH KOREAN FRAMEWORK." IT WILL THUS BE UNACCEPTABLE TO TUNISIA. DEL IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE STATEMENT IN FAVOR OF DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA AND TO ENTER RESERVATION. MESTIRI THOUGHT IT WOULD IN A WAY BE PREFERABLE IF CONFERENCE ACCEPTED NORTH KOREAN LANGUAGE UNDILUTED BECAUSE SUCH A TEXT WOULD HAVE NO CHANCE IN NEW YORK.

7. PUERTO RICO: MESTIRI WAS FATALISTIC THAT CUBANS WOULD HAVE THEIR WAY. HE SAID (WITH A REGRETFUL GESTURE) THAT HIS DELEGATION WOULD MAKE NO STATEMENT BUT WOULD ENTER A RESERVATION.

8. SOUTHERN AFRICA: CONFERENCE WILL ACCEPT LANGUAGE RECENTLY PROPOSED BY ZAMBIA, NIGERIA AND TANZANIA.

9. SOUTH EAST ASIA: VIETNAMESE, LAOTIAN AND CAMBODIAN DELEGATIONS ARE STAYING LOW KEY.

10. OTHER BILATERAL ISSUES : (A) SUDAN IS PREPARED TO REMAIN QUIET IF LIBYA BEHAVES (B) SIMILARLY, SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA HAVE AGREED TNOT TO BE CONTENTIOUS OVER DJIBOUTI (ETHIOPIAN DEL IS LOBBYING HARD,MESTIRI NOTED.) (C) AND UGANDA/KENYA DISPUTE SHOWS NO SIGNS OF SURFACING.

11. CONFERENCE OVERVIEW: AT CONCLUSION OF FIRST WEEK, MESTIRI SEES CONFERENCE RELATIVELY PEACEFUL ON INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SAHARA QUESTION, ARABS HAVE UNITED POSITION ON ALL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THEM.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04      COLOMB 02977 151700Z

AFRICANS ARE UNITED ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. THESE ARE THE ONLY TWO DIRECT CONCERNS OF MAJORITY OF CONFERENCE MEMBERS. TIMOR IS TILL A PROBLEM, BUT LARGELY BECAUSE OF ITS SIMILARITY TO SAHARA SITUATION , HE FELT. ON OTHER ISSUES, INTERESTED PARTY WILL SWAY MEETING--  
INEVITABLY TOWARDS AN "ALIGNED" LINE.

12. ACTUAL CONTENT OF NACC AND FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING, MESTIRI FELT, REVEALED ISSUES WHICH CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS REALLY GRAPPLING WITH: NATURE OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (EXPRESSED IN MEMBERSHIP QUESTION), JOCKEYING FOR POSITION ON NACC, AND STRENGTHENING OF FORMAL STRUCTURE OF NAM. ESTIRI HAD ARGUED IN FAVOR OF ROMANIAN GUEST STATUS AND WAS HAPPY WITH OUTCOME OF MEMBERSHIP DEBATE. BUT HE FELT LEFT-LEANING LEADERS OF

THE MOVEMENT WERE PROVING ALL TOO SUCCESSFUL IN EFFORTS  
TO GIVE SUBSTANCE TO THE MOVEMENT AND PUT GREATER FORCE  
BEHIND ITS "CONSENSUS" DECISIONS.  
REED

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976COLOMB02977  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760423-0617  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760852/aaaabtdz.tel  
**Line Count:** 173  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: REVIEW OF NAC DEVELOPMENTS WITH TUNISIAN DELEGATE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, TS, CE, (MESTIRI, MAHMOUD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006